Denial of ESI Benefits to Employees of closed Industries

3006. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that ESI subscribers in the employment of locked out/closed industries are denied ESI benefits;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government will evolve a scheme in co-ordination with Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), the Industries who have withheld payments/dues of the employee who were subscribers to the ESI Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The ESI Scheme is a contributory scheme based on the concept of "Pooling of risks and resources". As such for availing ESI benefits certain qualifying contibutory conditions have been prescribed in the ESI Act, Rules and Regulations framed threunder. The workers of closed factories/establishments or those under lock out are eligible for medical benefit for one benefit period even if contribution in respect of them is not paid and return of contribution is not submitted. In the cases of insured workers of the closed factories/establishments in whose respect contributions are not paid or returns of contributions are not received for one year, benefits of medical care under the ESI Scheme are not admissible. However,if employers of the closed/locked out factories, certify that the contributions in respect of their workers have been deducted from the wages payable to them, such workers remain eligible for medical care as well as other benefits.

The Corrupt Public Servants (Forfeiture of Property) Bill

3007. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government considering a proposal to enact the Corrupt Public Servants Forfeiture of Property Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and when this legislation is likely to be passed; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal from the Central Vigilance Commission that pending the enactment of the aforesaid law, the

Government should issue an ordinance on the subject as a major step to ensure zero corruption and if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Law Commission of India by its letter dated 4.2.1999 forwarded its 166th Report on the Corrupt Public Servants (Forfeiture of Property) Bill, to the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs who laid the Report on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 28th October, 1999. The Report is still at consideration stage in consultation with appropriate authorities and, therefore, at this stage it is not possible to indicate any time frame for the proposed legislation.

Since no final decision has yet been taken, the question regarding issuing an Ordinance at this stage does not arise.

Representatives of Minorities in the Selection Committees

3008. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions were issued several years back to include a representative of minorities in the selection committees boards of each Government oraganization;

(b) whether Government are aware that in most of the Government organisations, those instructions are not being followed;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and the steps being taken for implementation thereof; and

(d) if not, the organisations in which the instructions are being followed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d)Instructions were issued on 16th August, 1990 to provide that wherever a Selection Committee/Board exists or has to be constituted for making recruitment to 10 or more vacancies in group 'C' or Group 'D' posts/services. it shall be mandatory to have one member belonging to this Scheduled Castes/